

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TGEN, HU

SUBJECT: NSF/KKI PROGRAM

REF: BUDAPEST 2748

1. DESPITE OMB DECISIONS TO SEEK REDUCED NSF BUDGET AND ANTICIPATED CONGRESSIONAL CUTS IN THE OVERALL NSF FUNDS FOR 1979, NSF-INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS HOPES THAT THE 1978 EE FUNDING LEVEL OF \$475 THOUSAND CAN BE MAINTAINED FOR 1979. NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE REGARDING FINAL BUDGET AND EE FUND AVAILABILITY.

2. ASSUMING 1979EEFUNDING AT THE 78 LEVEL AND CONTINUING DIFFICULTIES WITH THEROMANIAN PROGRAM, NSF HOPES TO KEEP THE HUNGARIAN PROGRAM AT THE GENERAL LEVEL OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 195217

1977-78 (\$340-350 THOUSAND) WITH MOST OF THE REMAINDER GOING INTO THE NEW BULGARIAN PROGRAM. EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE 1976 FUNDING FOR HUNGARY WAS \$193 THOUSAND AND THAT MUCH OF THE HIGHER FUNDING IN 1977-78 IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS FROM ROMANIA.

3. BOTH STATE AND ICA HAVE DISCUSSED WITH NSF OUR CONCERNS
ABOUT FUNDING LEVELS FOR NSF'S FUTURE EE PROGRAMS AND
WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THIS CLOSELY. VANCE

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